



**CARIBBEAN COURT OF JUSTICE**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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**Statement by the CCJ President on the passing of Nancy Anderson**

**Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.** It is with great sadness that the President and Judges of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) acknowledge the passing of Nancy Anderson O.D. CCJ President, the Hon. Mr. Justice Adrian Saunders in particular notes that:

“Ms Anderson was an American attorney who practised in Jamaica for many years. She served in several roles during her career including Tutor and Course Director at the Norman Manley Law School, Legal Officer at the Independent Jamaican Council for Human Rights, Executive Director of the Legal Council and Director of the Kingston Legal Aid Clinic. She also appeared before the CCJ in the matter of Shanique Myrie v Barbados, an historic case for the Court in which Ms Myrie asserted that her right to free movement throughout the region had been breached.

Nancy was also an indefatigable, courageous fighter for the poor, the marginalised, the powerless; those with little or no voice in the society. She selflessly placed all her legal knowledge and skills to advance those causes. She was also deeply committed to the building up of the institutions and bodies that promoted the human rights of all. She was a wonderful human being and a consistent advocate for human rights, who was honoured by the Organization of Commonwealth Caribbean Bar Associations in July 2021 for her sterling contribution to the organisation and to human rights.

On behalf of the Caribbean Court of Justice, I wish to extend heartfelt sympathy to her family and loved ones.”

**-end-**

## About the Caribbean Court of Justice

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) was inaugurated in Port of Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on 16 April 2005 and presently has a Bench of seven judges presided over by CCJ President, the Honourable Mr Justice Adrian Saunders. The CCJ has an Original and an Appellate Jurisdiction and is effectively, therefore, two courts in one. In its Original Jurisdiction, it is an international court with exclusive jurisdiction to interpret and apply the rules set out in the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (RTC) and to decide disputes arising under it. The RTC established the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). In its Original Jurisdiction, the CCJ is critical to the CSME and all 12 Member States which belong to the CSME (including their citizens, businesses, and governments) can access the Court's Original Jurisdiction to protect their rights under the RTC. In its Appellate Jurisdiction, the CCJ is the final court of appeal for criminal and civil matters for those countries in the Caribbean that alter their national Constitutions to enable the CCJ to perform that role. At present, four states access the Court in its Appellate Jurisdiction, these being Barbados, Belize, Dominica and Guyana. However, by signing and ratifying the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice, Member States of the Community have demonstrated a commitment to making the CCJ their final court of appeal. The Court is the realisation of a vision of our ancestors, an expression of independence and a signal of the region's coming of age.

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